

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
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P 082337Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8465

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0080

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CA, AO, CU

SUBJ: TRUDEAU PLANS TO DISCUSS ANGOLA WITH CASTRO

REF: STATE 004271

1. IN COURSE NORMAL CONTACT WITH POLCOUNS, PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S SPECIAL ADVISER IVAN HEAD REFERRED TO TRUDEAU TRIP TO HAVANA JANUARY 26 TO 29. HEAD STATED THAT OBVIOUSLY SUBJECT OF ANGOLA WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED AND THAT HE HAD ALREADY PUT FORWARD PAPER TO TRUDEAU IN WHICH HE RECOMMENDED THAT TRUDEAU RAISE SUBJECT, COMMENT ON UNDESIRABILITY OF ADVENTURISM IN FOREIGN AREAS, AND SUGGEST THAT CUBA WOULD DO WELL TO FOLLOW CANADIAN ADVICE ON AFRICA, WHERE GOC HAS MUCH GREATER EXPERIENCE THAN CUBA.

2. HEAD SAID THAT GOC HAS OF COURSE BEEN FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE, BUT THAT, GIVEN THE MUCH GREATER CAPABILITY OF THE USG TO KEEP INFORMED ON DEVELOPMENTS THERE, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR GOC, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE PLANNED HAVANA TRIP, IF GOC COULD HAVE THE BENEFIT OF LATEST INFORMATION ON ANGOLAN SITUATION FROM USG. (PARENTHETICALLY, HE OBSERVED THAT TRIP HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR SO LONG THAT NO CONSIDERATION COULD BE GIVEN TO THIS LATE STAGE TO CANCEL OR POSTPONE IT). HEAD REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY RECOMMEND THAT DEPT CALL IN AMBASSADOR WARREN TO BRIEF HIM IN DETAIL ON CURRENT ANGOLAN SITUATION. (POLCOUNS  
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HAS ALREADY BRIEFED HEAD AND EXTAFF AFRICAN DIVISION

ON REFTEL).

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER TRUDEAU IS PERSONALLY INCLINED TO FOLLOW HEAD'S SUGGESTION THAT HE TAKE SUCH AN ACTIVIST ATTITUDE WITH CASTRO CONCERNING ANGOLA. GIVEN HEAD'S ONE-MAN-SHOW STYLE OF OPERATION, IT UNLIKELY HE WILL BOTHER INFORM EXTAFF OF HIS INITIATIVE WITH US (IN EMBASSY CONTACT YESTERDAY WITH EXTAFF OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR AFRICAN AREA INCLUDING ANGOLA, THEY SURMISED THAT TRUDEAU COULD NOT FAIL TO MENTION ANGOLA IN HAVANA BUT WERE UNAWARE OF HIS INTENTIONS AND HAD NOT BEEN CALLED UPON FOR BRIEFING PAPERS).

4. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT INADVISABLE TO TAKE INITIATIVE WITH WARREN UNLESS (1) DEPT WISHES ON ITS OWN TO REQUEST TRUDEAU TO INTERCEDE WITH CASTRO ON MATTER AND (2) DEPT DOES SO WITHOUT REFERENCE TO HEAD'S APPROACH. EXTAFF'S NOSE WOULD BE FAR OUT OF JOINT IF IT APPEARED WE WERE ACTING IN MATTER ON SUGGESTION OF HEAD, WITH WHOM IT HAS QUITE UNPLEASANT RIVALRY.

5. IN EVENT DEPT HAS SUCH INTEREST, HEAD WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE CREDIT, ASSUMING TRUDEAU BOUGHT THE PROJECT. BUT SUCH BACK-PATTING COULD NOT BE AVOIDED AND WOULD BE WORTH THE PAIN IN THE LARGER INTEREST. FOR EMBASSY TO SUGGEST TO HEAD THAT HE FUNNEL HIS REQUEST TO EXTAFF WOULD ACCOMPLISH NOTHING BUT INVITE HIS ANNOYANCE.

6. MOST DIFFICULT ASSESSMENT TO MAKE IS WHAT TRUDEAU'S INCLINATION MIGHT BE. ON ONE HAND, HE WOULD NOT WISH GIVE OFFENCE TO CASTRO DURING HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT. ON OTHER HAND, HIS INSTINCT IS PROBABLY AGAINST INTERVENTION OF CUBAN AND OTHER FOREIGN TROOPS AND IN FAVOR USG POLICY. IN ANY EVENT, EMBASSY SEES NO HARM IN DEPT'S BROACHING SUBJECT TO WARREN IF IT REALLY THINKS CASTRO MIGHT BE PERSUADED OR AT LEAST IMPRESSED WITH TRUDEAU INTERCESSION. AT LEAST HE HAS SHOWN NO WISH SO FAR TO PUT KINK IN GROWING CUBAN-CANADIAN ENTENTE.  
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## Message Attributes

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